

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 7(D)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 5, 2008

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Ordinance amending
Sec. 29-124 of the Code
to establish the Patriot
Passport Program

The accompanying ordinance was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Senator Javier D. Souto, Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Vice-Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan, Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Katy Sorenson and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

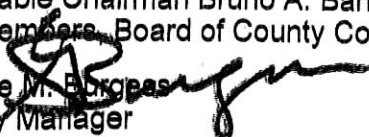
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Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY

Date: February 5, 2008

To: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Borjas 
County Manager

Subject: Ordinance amending Sec.29-124 of the Code to establish the Patriot Passport Program

The impact of this ordinance applying Charter County Transit System Surtax proceeds for the Patriot Passport Program is approximately \$942,000 per year. This figure is based on approximately 4,850 participants averaging 259 boardings per year at a discounted rate of \$.75 per boarding. This estimate will fluctuate year after year depending on participants that enroll or discontinue the program.

The Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) established a demonstration Patriot Passport Program lasting three years that ended on June 2007. During that time the CITT reimbursed Miami-Dade Transit (MDT) with Charter County Transit System Surtax funds at a rate of \$.75 per boarding for participant usage. Since July, MDT has not received funding for providing this program but has continued to honor participants. Throughout this period, July 2007 through March 2008 (estimated implementation date of this ordinance), MDT will have spent approximately \$786,000 for continuing this program. If not funded by Charter County Transit System Surtax revenues, the Department will be required to absorb this cost in its FY 2007-08 budget.



Ysela Llort
Assistant County Manager

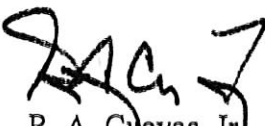


MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 5, 2008

FROM: 
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 7(D)

Please note any items checked.



"4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised

6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing

4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing

Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget

Budget required

Statement of fiscal impact required

Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation

Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing

Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)

No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor

Agenda Item No. 7(D)

Veto _____

2-5-08

Override _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 29-124 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA APPLYING CHARTER COUNTY TRANSIT SYSTEM SURTAX PROCEEDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PATRIOT PASSPORT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FARE-FREE TRANSIT SERVICES TO HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS WHO ARE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RESIDENTS AND WHOSE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME DOES NOT EXCEED THE STANDARD THRESHOLD APPLIED TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR THE LOW-INCOME, SENIOR CITIZENS' ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Section 29-124 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida is hereby amended as follows:¹

Section 29-124. Special fund created; uses of surtax proceeds; and role of Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust.

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Expenditure of surtax proceeds shall be subject to the following limitations:

¹ Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted. Words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.

(a) Surtax proceeds shall be applied to expand the Golden Passport Program to all persons regardless of income level who are over the age of 65 or are drawing Social Security benefits, >>and to establish the Patriot Passport Program to provide fare-free transit services to honorably discharged veterans who are Miami-Dade County residents and whose annual household income does not exceed the standard threshold applied to determine eligibility for the low-income senior citizens' additional homestead exemption.<< and to provide fare-free public transportation service on Metromover, including extensions. >>Surtax proceeds may be applied to those Patriot Passport fare-free transit services provided since the commencement of the initial pilot program on June 18, 2004.<<

Section 2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected by such invalidity.

Section 3. It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this ordinance, including any sunset provision, shall become and be made a part of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or other appropriate word.

Section 4. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of enactment unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

Section 5. This Ordinance may only be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the Board. Any amendment or repeal of this Ordinance shall further require a minimum of six (6) weeks between first and second reading.

PASSED AND ADOPTED:

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency:




Prepared by:

Bruce Libhaber

Sponsored by Senator Javier D. Souto,
Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz,
Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez,
Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Vice-Chairwoman Barbara J. Jordan,
Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Katy Sorenson and
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa